National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

Air pollution and cardiorespiratory health in Australia: The impact of climate change

Author(s): Hansen A, Bi P, Nitschke M
Year: 2009
Journal: Environmental Health : A Global Access Science Source. 9 (2-Jan): 17-37

Abstract:

Along with higher temperatures, the consequences of climate change in Australia are expected to include more frequent and intense heatwaves, extended drought periods, and lowered soil moisture content. The drier conditions may lead to an increase in airborne particulate matter due to windblown dust and an increased likelihood of bushfires. Higher concentrations of ozone, a temperature dependent photochemical pollutant may lead to a further decline in air quality. Heatwaves, particulate matter and ozone have all been linked to the onset of respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, particularly in the elderly. With current priorities focused on climate change and the prevention of ill-health, mitigation strategies need to be formulated to address the potential increase in heat- and air pollution-related adverse health effects in Australia's ageing population.

Source: Ask your librarian to help locate this item.

Resource Description

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Air Pollution, Temperature

Air Pollution: Interaction with Temperature, Ozone, Particulate Matter

Temperature: Extreme Heat

Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Australasia

Health Co-Benefit/Co–Harm (Adaption/Mitigation):

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

A focus of content

Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Cardiovascular Effect, Respiratory Effect

Mitigation/Adaptation:

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Mitigation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern:

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Elderly

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

Timescale:

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified